

January 2, 2015

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Drinking Water Protection Section

Mail Code WTR-3-2

Attention: Nancy Rumrill

75 Hawthorne St.

San Francisco, CA 94105

Reference: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process

Dear Ms. Rumrill,

This letter is written to you for your consideration of the proposed In-Situ copper mine in the town of Florence, Arizona by Curis Resource known as the Florence Copper Project (FCP).

I will get right to the point. From all that I have read and listened to from Curis Resource and other sources, I am of the strong opinion that the natural surface environment can and will be protected during the mine's operation and restored to its original state after the mine has shut down. All safeguards appear to be in place to protect the fresh water aquifer not only in the operational wells, but also having monitor wells around the outer perimeter. There is instrumentation installed to monitor each of the well's performance and the other various structures (pipelines, tanks, pits, etc.) in place, in addition to having personnel present at all times. Security has been upgraded and at the time the mine is operational, there will be guards on duty 24/7 to prevent unauthorized entry, acts of vandalism/terrorism, etc.

Since this mine location is within the town limits, the FCP and Curis Resource has come under extraordinary scrutiny by federal and state agencies. I also believe the town of Florence and nearby land owners/developers have unfairly swayed the general public's opinion against the mine by directly or indirectly insinuating that the mine will inject sulfuric acid into the fresh water aquifer thereby contaminating the drinking water supply. This in turn leads to the additional scrutiny Curis has had to endure.

Whenever Curis has been asked to dot an "i" or cross a "t", they have courteously done so.

In light of the above statements, I am confident that the mine will be safe in all respects and I urge you approve it and allow this mine to go forward. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Hope

FOIA Exemption 6

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